



# TACOM-ARDEC Wins New Jersey's Top Quality Achievement Award

## Strategic Management and Innovations Division

**W**ASHINGTON — New Jersey's Chief Executive Officer and Commerce Secretary presented the prestigious New Jersey's Quality Achievement Award to Brig. Gen. John Geis, Commanding General, U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armament Command's Armament Research, Development, and Engineering Center, during New Jersey's 10th Annual Quality Conference. TACOM-ARDEC is the first Federal Government organization to win the NJQAA.

The Quality New Jersey Award examiners used the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Criteria for Performance Excellence in the selection process. The Baldrige Criteria is the basis for the Army Performance Improvement Criteria — a measure of excellence in applying Total Army Quality principles.

TACOM-ARDEC's early adoption of TAQ and use of the APIC have focused their quest for continuous improvement and performance excellence, recognized with the Federal Government's top award, the President's Award for Quality in 1996, the Army Communities of Excellence Commander in Chief's top Award in 1996, and now the NJQAA.

ARDEC will also be receiving the ACOE Chief of Staff, Army Award in May 1999. QNJ examiners scored TACOM-ARDEC's business processes as excellent in all the categories of the Baldrige criteria.

At the request of the QNJ organization, Col. Dan Prescott TACOM-ARDEC deputy commander and other members of the TACOM-ARDEC staff briefed the QNJ's 1999 Annual Sharing Conference about their high-quality processes and strategies for achieving continuous improvement of performance excellence. The conference took place April 22 at the Bridgewater Manor.

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**Editor's Note:** This information is in the public domain at <http://www.dtic.mil/army link/news/> on the World Wide Web.

THE MALCOLM BALDRIGE NATIONAL QUALITY AWARD WAS ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS IN 1987 TO PROMOTE QUALITY AWARENESS, TO RECOGNIZE QUALITY ACHIEVEMENTS OF U.S. COMPANIES, AND TO PUBLICIZE SUCCESSFUL QUALITY STRATEGIES. THE AWARD IS NOT GIVEN FOR SPECIFIC PRODUCTS OR SERVICES. IN COOPERATION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR, THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPED AND CONTINUES TO MANAGE THE AWARD PROGRAM.

